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 Counterclaim-Plaintiff Sequenom, Inc.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ARIA DIAGNOSTICS, INC.,)

Plaintiff,)

v.)

SEQUENOM, INC.,)

Defendant/)

Counterclaim-Plaintiff,)

v.)

ARIA DIAGNOSTICS, INC.,)

Counterclaim-Defendant,)

and)

ISIS INNOVATION LIMITED,)

Nominal Counterclaim-)
 Defendant.)

Case No. 3:11-cv-06391-SI

**DECLARATION OF WILLIAM
 WELCH IN SUPPORT OF MOTION
 FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

Date: April 13, 2012

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Courtroom 10, 19th Floor

1 I, William Welch, declare:

2 1. I am Senior Vice President of Diagnostics at Sequenom, Inc. ("Sequenom"). I
3 have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this declaration and, if called as a witness, I could
4 and would testify competently thereto. This declaration is made in support of Sequenom's
5 Motion for Preliminary Injunction filed concurrently herewith.

6 **I. PERSONAL BACKGROUND AND EDUCATION**

7 2. I have been employed at Sequenom since January 11, 2011, when I was appointed
8 to the position of Senior Vice President of Diagnostics. My role and responsibilities in this
9 position are to oversee and manage all aspects of Sequenom's molecular diagnostics business. I
10 report directly to Sequenom's Chief Executive Officer, Harry F. Hixson, Jr.

11 3. Prior to joining Sequenom, I had over 18 years of leadership experience in medical
12 devices and biotechnology companies. Most recently before joining Sequenom, I was a
13 managing director at SkyDeck Associates LLC where I served as a consultant to molecular
14 diagnostic companies in the personalized medicine sector. From August 2005 to September
15 2009, I was senior vice president and chief commercial officer at Monogram Biosciences, where I
16 led sales, marketing, commercial operations, and alliances with pharmaceutical companies for its
17 oncology and virology businesses. At Monogram, I had a direct role in the commercial launch of
18 the first molecular assay in the personalized medicine sector, an assay linked to an HIV
19 therapeutic drug, and the commercial launch of Monogram's first oncology test for breast cancer.
20 Prior to Monogram, from 2001 to 2005, I was vice president of sales and marketing at La Jolla
21 Pharmaceuticals, and, from 1999 to 2001, vice president of global marketing at Dade Behring
22 MicroScan. I entered the healthcare industry in 1993 with Abbott Laboratories where for the next
23 six years I held positions of increasing responsibility including general management.

24 4. I received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering with Honors from the University of
25 California, Berkeley in 1983, and an M.B.A. from Harvard University Business School in 1988.
26
27
28

II. SEQUENOM

5. Sequenom is a molecular diagnostics and genetic analysis company. Sequenom is committed to providing molecular diagnostic testing services, and our primary focus is and for the past several years has been to commercialize non-invasive prenatal diagnostics testing services. In the genetic analysis side of its business, Sequenom provides research use-only products, services, applications, and genetic analysis products that translate the results of genomic science into solutions for biomedical research, translational research, molecular medicine applications, and agricultural, livestock, and other areas of research.

6. Sequenom was founded in 1994. We are headquartered in San Diego, California. Sequenom's wholly-owned subsidiary, Sequenom Center for Molecular Medicine, LLC ("Sequenom CMM"), currently operates a laboratory located in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and a second laboratory in San Diego, California. Both laboratories are accredited by the College of American Pathologists ("CAP") and compliant with the certification requirements for high complexity testing under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988, as amended ("CLIA"). Sequenom CMM develops and validates what are known as laboratory developed tests for use in and solely by Sequenom CMM as a testing service to physicians.

III. SEQUENOM'S MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS BUSINESS

7. Sequenom is, and for the last several years has been, primarily focused on developing and commercializing a non-invasive prenatal diagnostic test to identify pregnancies at risk for Down syndrome and other fetal aneuploidies. An aneuploidy is a type of chromosome abnormality and is a common cause of genetic disorders such as trisomy 21 (Down syndrome), trisomy 18 (Edwards syndrome), and trisomy 13 (Patau syndrome). It is my understanding that these three chromosome disorders make up the most common aneuploidic conditions in the United States today.

8. Through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Sequenom CMM, Sequenom began offering on a commercial basis a laboratory developed test, or LDT, for fetal aneuploidies in mid-October 2011. Sequenom initially marketed this LDT under the brand name MaterniT21 for use to detect trisomy 21, Down syndrome. Based on a further validation study, Sequenom CMM expanded the

1 application of the MaterniT21 LDT to include the detection of trisomies 18 and 13 in addition to
 2 trisomy 21, as was publicly announced by Sequenom CMM on February 8, 2012. The LDT
 3 remained the same, but was rebranded under the name MaterniT21 PLUS to denote the expanded
 4 application of the LDT (hereinafter “the MaterniT21 test”).

5 9. With the launch of the MaterniT21 test, Sequenom was the first company to bring
 6 a non-invasive prenatal diagnostic test for Down syndrome (or any other fetal aneuploidy) to
 7 market. The MaterniT21 test is Sequenom’s “flagship” – *i.e.*, Sequenom believes that the
 8 MaterniT21 test will allow Sequenom to establish itself as the leader in the new market of non-
 9 invasive prenatal diagnostic tests for fetal aneuploidies.¹

10 10. Sequenom’s technology is a revolutionary approach to prenatal genetic testing.
 11 The MaterniT21 test is a non-invasive alternative to conventional prenatal diagnostic procedures
 12 that use invasive means, such as amniocentesis and chorionic villus sampling (“CVS”). Invasive
 13 methods such as amniocentesis and CVS involve probes or needles being inserted into the uterus
 14 of a pregnant woman to obtain fluid or tissue samples from the placenta or fetus. These invasive
 15 procedures impose significant risks to both the fetus and the mother, including the risk of
 16 miscarriage.

17 11. By contrast, Sequenom’s non-invasive technology uses a simple maternal blood
 18 draw, and poses no significant risk to the fetus or mother. Rather than harvesting placental tissue
 19 cells (as is required for CVS), or entering the uterus to sample the amniotic fluid surrounding the
 20 fetus (as is done with genetic amniocentesis), Sequenom’s patent-protected technology extracts
 21 and analyzes DNA material directly from a maternal blood sample. By bringing the MaterniT21

22 _____
 23 ¹ In addition to the MaterniT21 test, Sequenom CMM has validated and currently offers to
 24 physicians three other LDTs: SensiGene RHD Genotyping to determine a mother’s blood type
 25 and RhD factor; SensiGene Cystic Fibrosis Carrier Screening to help identify individuals who
 26 may have an increased risk of having certain CF genetic mutations; and RetnaGene AMD to
 27 predict genetic predisposition to develop late-stage (wet) age-related macular degeneration. Prior
 28 to our commercial launch of MaterniT21 in October 2011, we commercially launched a testing
 service for cystic fibrosis carrier screening in September 2009, a testing service for non-invasive
 prenatal Rhesus D in early 2010, and a testing service for assessment of risk for developing wet
 AMD in the second quarter of 2011.

1 test to market, Sequenom is serving a previously unmet clinical need: a safer way for doctors
 2 and women to assess the risk of a pregnancy carrying a fetal aneuploidy. Ultimately, the
 3 MaterniT21 test has the potential to supplant invasive diagnostics such as amniocentesis or CVS,
 4 as it provides a much safer alternative.

5 12. The MaterniT21 test analyzes circulating cell-free fetal nucleic acid extracted from
 6 a maternal blood sample. Patient samples are collected by physicians and submitted to Sequenom
 7 CMM for testing. The maternal blood samples are processed at Sequenom CMM's CAP-
 8 accredited and CLIA-certified laboratory, where the MaterniT21 test was developed and
 9 validated. The results are reported back to the ordering physician. The turnaround time of 8 to
 10 10 days for the MaterniT21 test is similar to the turnaround time for amniocentesis or CVS.

11 13. The MaterniT21 test is indicated for use in pregnant women who are at increased
 12 risk (by medical and clinical indicators) of carrying a fetus with Down syndrome or trisomies 18
 13 or 13, including women who will be over age 35 at term, have a suspicion of problematic
 14 pregnancy indicated by a positive serum screening result, a positive ultrasound result or prior
 15 affected pregnancy or family history. In the United States, there are an estimated 750,000 such
 16 high-risk pregnancies each year.²

17 14. The purpose of the MaterniT21 test is to provide physicians and their patients with
 18 critical new information to help them make better informed decisions about the patients'
 19 healthcare and pregnancies. When the test results are obtained by the physician, he or she will
 20 consult with the patient and, if the test is positive, the physician and patient will determine how
 21 this data is used. At least initially, the likely outcome from a positive test is that the doctor will
 22 recommend that a CVS or amniocentesis be performed to confirm the test. Conversely, if the test
 23 is negative, as it will be in most cases, Sequenom believes that with the high sensitivity and
 24 specificity of its MaterniT21 test, the physician and patient may decide that the information is

25
 26 ² Sequenom has initially focused on the high risk group because our clinical data is derived from
 27 clinical studies of women in the high risk group. Sequenom intends to expand the test's coverage
 28 to include the lower risk group if and when supported by clinical data from further studies.

1 sufficient for them to make a risk assessment of what they wish to do, and potentially no further
2 tests are required.

3 **IV. SEQUENOM IS CREATING THE MARKET FOR NON-INVASIVE PRENATAL**
4 **TESTING FOR FETAL ANEUPLOIDIES**

5 15. Sequenom is a pioneer in bringing non-invasive prenatal testing to market, and the
6 first company to market a non-invasive prenatal diagnostic test for fetal aneuploidies. Sequenom
7 commercially launched the MaterniT21 test on October 17, 2011. A true and correct copy of
8 Sequenom's press release announcing the launch of the MaterniT21 test is attached to this
9 declaration as Exhibit 1.

10 16. The market for the MaterniT21 test initially is driven by acceptance of its clinical
11 utility by Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM) Specialists, also referred to as Perinatologists, and
12 Obstetricians (OB/GYNs) practicing at high volume birthing centers. Genetic Counselors also
13 play a role as resources to physicians for counseling patients on genetic markers and pregnancy
14 consequences. Ultimately, patients are the end-users of the testing service, and as they become
15 aware of the availability of the test, they may go into physicians' offices requesting the test.

16 17. At launch, Sequenom began offering the test to physicians in 20 major
17 metropolitan regions across the United States. Sequenom initially targeted approximately 3,000
18 MFM specialists and about 2,000 OB/GYNs in these regions, each with high volume practices.

19 18. The early traction of the MaterniT21 test has been very encouraging. Sequenom did
20 not premarket the MaterniT21 test before launch as the data was blinded to the company by
21 Women & Infants Hospital, which participated in a pivotal validation study of the test. From this
22 cold launch in mid-October 2011 through year-end 2011, Sequenom CMM performed about 1,000
23 MaterniT21 tests, which equates to about 80 tests per week. The test run-rate accelerated at the
24 end of 2011 to a pace of 9,000 tests per year (about 170 tests per week). These results are
25 especially encouraging considering that the MaterniT21 test was launched during the holiday
26 season and, before mid-December 2011, the maternal blood samples had to be collected at a
27 processing site outside the physician's office and shipped on dry ice. By year-end 2011, Sequenom
28 introduced a new blood draw tube for the collection of MaterniT21 test samples, allowing for blood

1 to be drawn directly at a physician's office and shipped directly to Sequenom CMM at ambient
2 temperature.

3 19. Early adopters of the groundbreaking MaterniT21 test have provided positive
4 feedback to Sequenom, including statements by maternal-fetal MFM specialists that Sequenom
5 featured in a press release on December 19, 2011, a true and correct copy of which is attached
6 hereto as Exhibit 2. For instance, Dr. Barbara O'Brien, MFM specialist and director of Perinatal
7 Genetics at Women's & Infants Hospital – which participated in the validation study of the
8 MaterniT21 test: stated that "the test has an important place in the plan of care for women who
9 are at a high risk for carrying a child with Down syndrome." *See id.* Dr. Frank Boehm, Vice
10 Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Director of MFM at Vanderbilt
11 Center for Women's Health, stated: "As part of our mission to provide the best possible medical
12 care to patients visiting our facility, we are pleased to provide patients with access to Sequenom
13 CMM's MaterniT21 LDT as an opportunity to gain valuable information early in a woman's
14 pregnancy." *Id.*

15 20. Sequenom has actively progressed the rollout of the MaterniT21 test since its
16 launch four months ago. The MaterniT21 test is now (and has been since early January 2012)
17 available in all 50 states in the United States, and Sequenom is now targeting a total of 7,500
18 physicians (including MFM specialists and OB/GYNs) with high volume practices. Sequenom
19 estimates that this represents substantially all of the accessible market.

20 21. Sequenom has been and is directing substantial resources to marketing and sales of
21 the MaterniT21 test. As of early January 2012, Sequenom has doubled its sales force personnel,
22 increasing from 22 active field sales representatives at initial launch of the MaterniT21 test to
23 more than 44 active field sales representatives. Sequenom plans to expand to 80 active field sales
24 representatives as and when appropriate to accommodate market expansion. These field sales
25 representatives require extensive training, as they must be prepared to educate physicians and
26 other healthcare providers, as well as third-party payors, regarding the clinical benefits and cost
27 effectiveness of the MaterniT21 test.

22. Sequenom has established a corporate goal of billing at least 25,000 MaterniT21 tests in 2012. Sequenom hopes to substantially exceed this internal goal, and the early results are promising. Since the initial launch of the MaterniT21 test, every week has been a growth week in terms of sales volume. As Sequenom has publicly stated, an optimistic high case for sales of the MaterniT21 test in 2012 is approximately 60,000 tests.

23. Some market analysts predict lower test volumes and others predict higher volumes than Sequenom's stated internal goal of billing at least 25,000 MaterniT21 tests. Because the market is new and untested, the analysts often revise their own projections. For instance, Auriga USA, LLC, an equity research firm, in its analyst report dated January 30, 2012 stated (referring to Sequenom by its stock symbol SQNM): "We believe SQNM's marketing message is resonating with both physicians and patients, and bodes well for a solid launch." In this same report, Auriga also stated: "We had been extremely conservative in our projections (10,000) due to the novel nature of the test. However, we believe that an early, highly sensitive, non-invasive option for high risk pregnancies may expand the addressable market. We now expect SQMN will bill 45,000 tests in 2012." A true and correct copy of this Auriga report is attached to this declaration as Exhibit 3.

24. Auriga underscored that this is a brand new market, stating in its January 30, 2012 report: "Given the newness of the test and associated learning curve, we believe the uptake will accelerate through the year. Our new 45,000 test estimate assumes SQNM can penetrate ~ 10% of 5,000 physicians (say key opinion leaders, early adopters and large regional practices), each doing 90-100 tests per year. Given the feedback from early adopters (suggesting 500-600 per year) we believe our numbers are achievable." *See id.*

25. Another equity analyst, Dougherty & Company, in its report dated February 3, 2012, upwardly adjusted its projections of Sequenom's volume of MaterniT21 tests in 2012 to 27,600 tests, stating that it is "adjusting [its] year-1 unit volume assumptions higher (new est. 27.6K units; old est. 20.3k units; mgmt. guidance 25k units)" A true and correct copy of this analyst report is attached to this declaration as Exhibit 4. Another investment and equity research firm, Oppenheimer, in its report dated January 12, 2012, estimated that Sequenom will bill

1 approximately 8,500 MaterniT12 tests in 2012, which is at the low end of analyst estimates. A
 2 true and correct copy of Oppenheimer's report is attached to this declaration as Exhibit 5.

3 26. Sequenom's investor relations department tracks analysts' views and has reported
 4 to me that the consensus view (*i.e.*, the average estimate) among eleven different analysts has
 5 Sequenom selling 22,135 MaterniT21 tests in 2012. Sequenom's laboratory in San Diego
 6 currently has the sequencing capacity to manage approximately 100,000 patient samples on an
 7 annual basis, which exceeds even the highest estimates of market demand in 2012. Sequenom
 8 CMM is increasing its sequencing capacity in its San Diego laboratory. It also is building out a
 9 new CLIA laboratory in North Carolina, which Sequenom expects to be operational in the second
 10 half of 2012 and to create 242 new jobs. The Governor of North Carolina announced the state's
 11 agreement with Sequenom on this new laboratory in a press release on October 12, 2011, a true
 12 and correct copy of which is attached to this declaration as Exhibit 6. With the San Diego
 13 laboratory, and its expanding capacity, and the soon-to-be operational laboratory in North
 14 Carolina, Sequenom currently has the capacity to fully serve 100% of patient and physician
 15 demand for non-invasive tests for fetal aneuploidies for 2012, 2013, and the foreseeable future.

16 **V. PRICING STRUCTURE/INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT**

17 27. There are different types of commercial payors, including insurance companies
 18 providing traditional indemnity (or "fee-for-service") plans and managed care organizations such
 19 as Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs).
 20 The majority of Americans with private health insurance are enrolled in some type of managed
 21 care plan: either an HMO or PPO or, less commonly, point-of-service (POS) plans that combine
 22 the features of an HMO and a PPO. There are numerous commercial payors, the top six (by
 23 covered lives) are Wellpoint, United Health Group, Aetna, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, CIGNA, and
 24 Health Care Service Corporation.

25 28. Managed care plans contract with doctors, hospitals, clinics, and other health care
 26 providers such as pharmacies, labs, x-ray centers, and medical equipment vendors. This group of
 27 contracted health care providers for a particular plan is often referred to as that plan's "network."
 28 Some managed care plans (such as HMOs) have a "closed" system that provides reimbursement

1 coverage only for services from a network provider, except for certain types of care that may not
2 be available from a network provider. Other managed care plans (such as PPOs) have an “open”
3 system in which plan members can seek services both in and outside of the health plan, but
4 typically a plan member will pay a higher copayment (or “copay”) for out-of-network services.

5 29. The various insurance companies, HMOs and PPOs each have their own policies
6 and practices with respect to the level of health care cost reimbursement they provide. This is
7 especially the case with reimbursement for services provided “out-of-network.” With a new and
8 innovative service like the MaterniT21 test, the reimbursement level is a matter of negotiation.
9 Sequenom will not know what the reimbursement level will be until policies are adopted by
10 insurance payors and Sequenom enters into contracts with payors. This is a similar process that
11 other unique, highly complex diagnostic tests had to go through when they entered the market.

12 30. Sequenom is initially offering the MaterniT21 test on an out-of-network basis
13 while actively negotiating with major insurance coverage providers to ensure eligible patients will
14 have coverage for this important new diagnostic test. Sequenom has implemented a patient-
15 friendly billing policy for the MaterniT21 test, with the cost to insured patients to be no more than
16 \$235 out-of-pocket expense. Until contracts with insurance payors are in place, Sequenom bills
17 the payors directly, billing at the list price, and pursues reimbursement on a case-by-case basis.
18 Currently, Sequenom’s list price for the MaterniT21 test is \$2,762. The insurance payor may pay
19 the list price or, more typically, a portion of the billed amount. Sequenom then pursues the
20 insurance payor for any outstanding amount, through a negotiation or appeal process, with the
21 expectation of receiving additional reimbursement. This series of billing and negotiation may
22 take up to nine months. It is Sequenom’s policy that it does not and will not bill patients for the
23 outstanding billed amount after negotiations with the payor.

24 31. The negotiation with an insurance payor involves working to persuade that payor
25 that the test is medically necessary and that the price is justified, based on qualitative and
26 quantitative health economic factors. The qualitative factors include such things as the
27 MaterniT21 test is highly accurate and non-invasive which provides valuable information to the
28 mother with no risk to her or the fetus, thereby avoiding the very high maternal anxiety levels

1 related to invasive procedures such as amniocentesis and CVS. The quantitative factors include
 2 economic and market justifications for the test's price, such as the research and development
 3 costs, the costs of goods sold, competitive and/or avoided medical procedures, and
 4 patient/physician demand for the test.

5 32. With technology as pioneering and innovative as the MaterniT21 test, and with an
 6 adoption rate that nobody can precisely predict, this is a very dynamic environment. At present,
 7 the reimbursement rates, payment timing, interest in contracting, and sensitivity to patient
 8 demands vary significantly among the insurance payors. Sequenom will not know what the
 9 minimum expected reimbursement will be until we work through the issues with the insurance
 10 payors and gain experience with this new market. In my experience with other unique diagnostic
 11 tests, the learning and negotiation process for establishing reimbursement rates for the
 12 MaterniT21 test can be expected to take a minimum of one year and more likely two or more
 13 years.

14 33. Because the MaterniT21 test is new and groundbreaking, it does not fit within any
 15 of the existing codes in the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code set maintained by the
 16 American Medical Association through its CPT Editorial Panel. The CPT code set describes
 17 medical, surgical, and diagnostic services and is designed to communicate uniform information
 18 about medical services and procedures among physicians, coders, patients, accreditation
 19 organizations, and payors for administrative, financial, and analytical purposes. Sequenom
 20 currently bills the MaterniT21 test under a "miscellaneous" CPT code, which is used for
 21 procedures, devices, and services that have not been assigned a unique CPT code.

22 34. HMOs typically do not provide reimbursement for services provided out-of-
 23 network. For HMO participants who want the MaterniT21 testing, Sequenom will provide the
 24 requested testing if the HMO has pre-authorized the reimbursement amount. Again, this requires
 25 negotiation on a case-by-case basis. For insured patients choosing to pay entirely out-of-pocket
 26 (and for uninsured patients), the MaterniT21 test price is approximately \$1,933. Additionally,
 27 Sequenom has a patient assistance policy for patients who are not insured and do not have
 28

1 sufficient funds for payment. At launch, Sequenom established 50 free tests per quarter for
2 qualifying patients.

3 35. The process for establishing reimbursement from Medicaid involves another set of
4 players and considerations. Medicaid is the United States health program for families with very
5 limited income, which is jointly funded by the state and federal governments. Currently, all fifty
6 states participate in Medicaid, with each state implementing its own Medicaid program (*e.g.*,
7 California's Medi-Cal program). Sequenom expects that negotiation with states over Medicaid
8 reimbursement rates will be a complex process that will take at least one to two years with any
9 particular state.

10 **VI. SEQUENOM'S R&D AND PRODUCT LAUNCH COSTS**

11 36. The MaterniT21 test went through the full FOVV – feasibility, optimization,
12 verification and validation – at Sequenom CMM. Sequenom CMM performed a pilot 96-patient
13 study of a trisomy 21 test using massively parallel shotgun sequencing, and presented the results
14 of this study at a meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics in November 2010. Based
15 on the results of this study, Sequenom CMM started and completed a larger study that analyzed
16 480 patient samples collected from pregnant women at increased risk for fetal chromosome 21
17 aneuploidy. A manuscript describing the results from this larger laboratory verification study was
18 published online on February 10, 2011, in the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

19 37. Based on the results from these two studies, Sequenom CMM undertook a large
20 pivotal clinical validation study. This study was sponsored and funded by Sequenom, but was
21 designed, implemented, analyzed, and reported by researchers at Women & Infants Hospital and
22 Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University in Rhode Island ("Women's Hospital").
23 Between April 2009 and February 2011, twenty-seven sites world-wide enrolled women in the
24 multi-center validation study, and patient samples were collected under the auspices of Women's
25 Hospital. In this study, Sequenom CMM tested and analyzed patient samples over a nine-week
26 period (January to March 2011). This clinical validation study was detailed in an article authored
27 by Sequenom's academic collaborators that was published online in the journal *Genetics in*
28

1 *Medicine* on October 17, 2011, coinciding with Sequenom's commercial launch of the
 2 MaterniT21 test. *See* Exhibit 1.

3 38. Sequenom's academic collaborators at Women's Hospital recently published the
 4 results of another study conducted during the same testing period described in the preceding
 5 paragraph. Sequenom announced in a press release issued February 2, 2012, that the study
 6 demonstrated that, in addition to trisomy 21 (Down syndrome), the MaterniT21 test can detect
 7 fetal trisomies 18 (Edwards syndrome) and 13 (Patau syndrome) with high accuracy from a
 8 maternal blood sample. The full results of the study were published in the online version of
 9 *Genetics in Medicine*, to which Sequenom's press release provided an Internet link. A true and
 10 correct copy of Sequenom's February 2, 2012 press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 7.

11 39. In addition to its significant investment in these clinical studies, Sequenom has
 12 invested substantially in Sequenom CMM's information technology infrastructure to enhance the
 13 capabilities of the laboratories to track samples and provide electronic ordering and reporting and
 14 have put into place sample collection and transportation logistics that can be scaled as demand for
 15 the MaterniT21 test increases.

16 40. Sequenom also has committed to establish a CLIA laboratory in North Carolina,
 17 which Sequenom expects to be operational in the second half of this year 2012. Sequenom has
 18 committed to make an \$18.7 million investment in an existing research park, with the expectation
 19 that this will create 242 jobs. As noted earlier in this declaration, the Governor of North Carolina
 20 issued a press release announcing the state's agreement with Sequenom. In this press release,
 21 Paul Maier, Chief Financial Officer of Sequenom and President of Sequenom CMM, stated that
 22 "Sequenom is rapidly advancing innovative technologies and has been looking at the right venue
 23 to expand its capacity, so we're extremely pleased to have reached an agreement with North
 24 Carolina." *See* Exhibit 6.

25 41. Between April 2009 and the launch of the test in October 2011, Sequenom's
 26 research and development costs and other pre-launch expenses for the MaterniT21 test were on
 27 the order of \$70 million.
 28

42. Research and development remains a high priority as Sequenom is pursuing a number of initiatives to further improve the process and the capacity for the MaterniT21 test. For instance, in addition to Sequenom's investment in its LDT for fetal aneuploidies, Sequenom is on a parallel path to commercialize a test that can be used outside the CLIA-laboratory setting, which requires various FDA approvals. Other initiatives and activities include further clinical trials and maintaining and expanding the infrastructure and operational capacity that Sequenom has built up, including sales force and laboratory personnel, information technology infrastructure, sample collection tracking systems, and electronic order and reporting systems. Sequenom estimates that its investment in the ongoing launch of MaterniT21 will exceed \$70 million in 2012.

43. A number of analysts covering Sequenom have their own estimates, which they provide to the investment community. For example, William Blair, an equity research firm, in its report dated January 9, 2012, stated that its financial model projects Sequenom "spending nearly \$100 million over the next 12 months on the MaterniT21 rollout." A true and correct copy of this analyst report is attached to this declaration as Exhibit 8.

VII. ARIA'S ANNOUNCED PLANS TO ENTER THE MARKET

44. Aria, which was formerly known as Tandem Diagnostics, Inc., is a private company that operates a laboratory in San Jose, California. Aria has been operating in stealth mode until just this past month. Investment bank and equity research firm William Blair stated in its January 16, 2012 report: "Although we have spoken with [Aria's] management before, Aria chose this past week to open up about its test and plans for commercialization." A true and correct copy of this analyst report is attached to this declaration as Exhibit 9.

45. In public statements made at the J.P. Morgan Healthcare Conference in San Francisco in January 2012, Aria stated that it plans to commercially launch its test in the first half of this year. "As far as strategy," William Blair wrote, "Aria has told us consistently it plans to compete on price, throughput advantages, and product positioning, and it confirmed this in its presentation at the J.P. Morgan Healthcare Conference." *See id.* Other analysts have issued similar reports. For instance, in its January 9, 2012 report, Oppenheimer wrote that Aria "hopes

1 to offer a substantially lower price point (<\$1,000), versus SQNM's \$2,700 list." A true and
 2 correct copy of the Oppenheimer report is attached to this declaration as Exhibit 10.

3 46. On February 6, 2012, Aria issued a press release announcing that "its new prenatal
 4 test has been named the Harmony Prenatal Test™." A true and correct copy of this press release
 5 is attached to this declaration as Exhibit 11. In this press release, Aria goes on to state that "[t]he
 6 test is a directed non-invasive approach to cell-free DNA (cfDNA) analysis in maternal blood to
 7 detect common trisomies linked to genetic disorders." *Id.*

8 47. At the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) conference held on February
 9 6 through 11, 2012, in Dallas, Texas, Aria publicly stated that the list price for its test will be
 10 \$900. Aria also distributed promotional material at the SMFM conference, including a brochure
 11 on its Harmony Prenatal Test. A true and correct copy of the English language version of this
 12 brochure is attached hereto as Exhibit 12.

13 **VIII. IMPACT ON SEQUENOM IF ARIA ALLOWED TO LAUNCH ITS INFRINGING** 14 **PRENATAL TEST**

15 48. It is my understanding that the process for analyzing cell-free fetal nucleic acids to
 16 detect fetal aneuploidies is protected by United States Patent No. 6,258,540 (the "'540 patent").
 17 Sequenom has brought the present lawsuit against Aria to enforce Sequenom's exclusive rights
 18 under the '540 patent and to halt Aria from offering, selling, and performing other activities in
 19 respect to its prenatal test (now called Harmony Prenatal Test), which the lawsuit alleges
 20 infringes the '540 patent. It is my understanding that it may take up to two years before there is a
 21 trial in this lawsuit and, if not earlier resolved by a motion for summary judgment, this lawsuit
 22 may be pending for all of 2012 and 2013 (at least). I further understand that one form of relief in
 23 a patent infringement action is a permanent injunction, which would be available only after a trial
 24 (or summary judgment) in which a final determination of infringement and validity is made. I
 25 further understand that the purpose of a preliminary injunction is to prevent likely infringing
 26 activities during the pendency of a lawsuit in cases where such infringing activity will cause
 27 irreparable harm to the plaintiff – that is, harm that cannot be fully remedied by an award of
 28 damages and permanent injunction. This is such a case. Sequenom will be severely and

1 irreparably harmed if denied its exclusive market opportunities due to Aria's infringement of the
2 '540 patent while this lawsuit is pending.

3 49. The MaterniT21 test is Sequenom's flagship offering – it is the most significant
4 and valuable product or service that Sequenom offers. As the investment and equity research
5 firm Oppenheimer put it, “the real value of SQNM lies within the just-launched MaterniT21 test
6 for Trisomy 21.” *See* Exhibit 5 at 3. Sequenom's business is substantially dependent on its
7 ability to obtain the full benefit of its exclusive rights to sell a non-invasive fetal aneuploidy test
8 that uses the technology embodied in the '540 patent.

9 50. Sequenom commercially launched the MaterniT21 test just four months ago (on
10 October 17, 2011) as the very first non-invasive prenatal test for fetal aneuploidies brought to
11 market. The MaterniT21 test is in the early growth phase in the marketplace. In my experience,
12 this phase is generally the time period when a company and its key product distinguishes itself
13 from current practices, gains medical trust, expands its customer base, and establishes a
14 leadership reputation in the market. The company's prospects depend on the MaterniT21 test
15 establishing and maintaining a dominant leadership position in the market for non-invasive
16 prenatal test for fetal aneuploidies.

17 51. Sequenom seeks to represent to market participants that it is the only company that
18 offers a non-invasive prenatal diagnostic test for fetal aneuploidies, based on Sequenom's patent-
19 protected technology for analysis of circulating cell-free fetal nucleic acid in maternal blood. At
20 this time, Sequenom cannot prevent Aria from promoting its infringing test without a Court order.
21 If Sequenom's patented technology contributes to Aria's market position (instead of exclusively
22 contributing to the market position of Sequenom), then Aria's marketing practices will have a
23 severe negative impact on Sequenom's efforts to market its testing service to physicians and their
24 patients, and to negotiate and establish premium reimbursement rates with the various insurance
25 coverage providers.

26 52. If Aria is not prevented from offering and selling the accused Harmony Prenatal
27 Test, the resulting harm to Sequenom will include loss of sales and market share precisely at the
28 stage when Sequenom is rolling out the MaterniT21 test. Every lost opportunity to provide and

1 bill its testing service for a particular pregnancy is a sale that Sequenom has lost forever, and
 2 Sequenom will not have another opportunity to sell its testing service to that “consumer” unless
 3 she becomes pregnant again. This lost opportunity and time delay for another opportunity, if any,
 4 will irreparably harm Sequenom’s marketing momentum and the rate of adoption of the
 5 MaterniT21 test.

6 53. Aria’s entry into the market will also inevitably and irreversibly erode the price
 7 that Sequenom would be able to command for its MaterniT21 test. The price that Sequenom is
 8 able to charge for the MaterniT21 test depends most significantly on the reimbursement rates that
 9 Sequenom is able to negotiate with insurance coverage providers. Sequenom is in the process of
 10 negotiating reimbursement rates with a number of major payors. If Aria is allowed to enter the
 11 market, the dynamics of Sequenom’s negotiations with these payors will be dramatically altered,
 12 as Sequenom will have lost the ability to leverage its exclusivity and the payors will insist upon
 13 resetting the negotiations to account for Aria’s offering a competing test at a lower price.

14 54. If Aria enters the market with its stated list price of \$900 for the accused test, it
 15 will severely undercut the price that Sequenom otherwise would be able to command for the
 16 MaterniT21 test. If Aria begins marketing and selling its infringing test at a lower price point
 17 than Sequenom, as appears to be Aria’s commercial strategy, then the dynamics of Sequenom’s
 18 negotiation with insurance payors over reimbursement rates will adversely impacted. The
 19 insurance payor will not pay more than the retail price in a local market for a particular service.
 20 Insurance providers have considerable bargaining power and can insist on “take it or leave it”
 21 contracts that result in low reimbursement. Put simply, Sequenom will be forced to accept
 22 dramatically lower prices for its testing service to remain price-competitive with Aria’s infringing
 23 testing service.

24 55. The price erosion that Sequenom will inevitably sustain if Aria enters the market
 25 with its infringing test will in all likelihood be irreversible. Sequenom will not recapture its
 26 ability to command premium pricing for the MaterniT21 test after ultimately prevailing in this
 27 litigation if Aria is allowed to market its infringing test in the interim period. It has been my
 28 experience that, once a reimbursement rate is established for a diagnostic product or service, the

insurance payors will not increase the reimbursement rate significantly, if at all, above the rate that was initially established. The payor will take the position that the reimbursement rate that the product or service provider was willing to accept when the rate was initially established is the rate that reflects the proper economics of the product or service. In view of the payors' asymmetric bargaining power, Sequenom would face an uphill battle in seeking to renegotiate higher reimbursement rates after it ultimately succeeds in this litigation, as the market price will have been set in the eyes of the insurance payors, and it is a virtual certainty that Sequenom will not be able to "unring the bell" and achieve the reimbursement rates it otherwise would be able to command without Aria's infringing test on the market while this litigation is pending.

56. The imperative to prevent Aria from entering its infringing test on the market is heightened further by the relatively limited period of time that Sequenom has to enjoy and take full advantage of its exclusive rights under the '540 patent. The '540 patent and its concomitant monopoly rights expire in 2017, just five years from now. Sequenom's exclusive, monopoly rights under the '540 patent expire with the patent. Moreover, technology is moving quickly in the field of prenatal diagnostics, and there is the potential for new technologies to emerge that may make the MaterniT21 test obsolete. Sequenom is not aware of any such technology at present, but the potential is not merely imaginary. For instance, investment bank and equity research firm William Blair, in its January 16, 2012 report, stated that it spoke with management of Cellscope Corporation, a private company in California, regarding "its planned prenatal diagnostic" test and that Cellscope "is pursuing a unique approach that has the possibility of being a game changer in the space; however, it is still very early in its progress." *See* Exhibit 9 at 2. In view of the relatively fast-moving technology in this field, Sequenom will be irreparably harmed unless it is afforded the full measure of its exclusive rights to the groundbreaking innovation of the '540 patent, and the full opportunity to capitalize on its window of opportunity to sell the MaterniT21 test before the patent expires or new technology renders it obsolete.

57. Another imperative for preventing Aria from entering the market during the pendency of this litigation is the likelihood that Aria would not be able to satisfy an award of damages to Sequenom for Aria's infringement. Aria is a small, venture-backed private company

that appears by its public statements and web site to have no product or service other than its infringing prenatal fetal aneuploidy test. Aria publicly announced in its press release of January 9, 2012, that it secured over \$50 million in funding from several venture capital firms. A true and correct copy of Aria's press release is attached to this declaration as Exhibit 13. It is likely that this funding will be spent on a clinical study that Aria announced it has launched in its press release dated January 12, 2012, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 14. William Blair, in its January 16, 2012 report, stated that Aria "completed a \$52.7 million series C round of financing, which we believe will in large part be used for a massive 25,000-women clinical study that the company announced it would undertake." *See* Exhibit 9 at 3. Later in this same report, William Blair states: "We note that this will be a lengthy trial given the size of the study and the fact that an additional seven months will be needed following the last enrollee so that the pregnancy can be carried to term. When adding in the time to collect and analyze the data, we expect that this could be a 20-month-plus endeavor." *Id.*

58. It is my understanding that when venture-backed companies fail and become insolvent, there typically is no legal recourse against the venture capital firms. Because Aria is a small, venture-backed company, Sequenom is concerned that Aria may not be in a position to fully satisfy a damages award upon a final judgment that its Harmony Prenatal Test infringes the '540 patent. Sequenom's diminished chances of recovering from Aria any, much less all, of a damages award for Aria's infringement constitutes real and irreparable harm.

59. Sequenom also will be irreparably harmed by any market confusion that results from Aria's entry into the marketplace. If Aria puts an inferior service of the market, or if it markets its service "off label" for uses that are not supported by clinical data – by, for instance, marketing its Harmony Prenatal Test to women with low risk of fetal aneuploidy pregnancies – Aria will poison the market and irreparably harm Sequenom's opportunity to create and exploit a sustainable market. The market for non-invasive tests for fetal aneuploidies is a new market that is aimed at supplementing and ultimately supplanting the current standard of care, which calls for invasive tests such as amniocentesis and CVS. It is important that non-invasive tests for fetal aneuploidies be validated by further clinical studies before a broad release to the market.

60. Sequenom is a public company and its investors have made a substantial investment in the company on the expectation that Sequenom would be afforded exclusive rights to use the innovative technology embodied by the '540 patent for a non-invasive prenatal test for fetal aneuploidies. In public offerings since May 2010, investors have purchased shares of Sequenom stock that have resulted in net proceeds to Sequenom of over \$197 million. Sequenom and its shareholders will be substantially and irreparably harmed if Aria is allowed to piggy-back off of Sequenom's patented technology.

61. As described earlier in this declaration, Sequenom has used and will use a large portion of those funds to develop, launch, and rollout the MaterniT21 test. Sequenom has expanded its marketing and operating capacity, including expansion of sales force, laboratory, and information technology infrastructures, with the expectation that Sequenom would enjoy the full measure of its exclusive rights under the '540 patent. If Sequenom is denied this right and Aria is allowed to enter the market during the pendency of this lawsuit, then Sequenom's deliberate planning will be adversely affected, and the impacts will be immediate because the MaterniT21 test is early in its growth phase. Sequenom's loss of revenue resulting from Aria's infringement will deprive Sequenom of the funds that could otherwise use to sustain an upward trajectory of the rollout of the MaterniT21 test and the expansion of operational capacity geared to match the expected growth of the market. This loss of revenue and market share likely will force Sequenom to reduce its operating expenses, including reducing the number of sales force personnel and halting facilities build-outs and improvements.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on March 8, 2012, in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

/s/ William Welch

William Welch

I Michael Malecek, the ECF filer of this document hereby attest that I have on file all holograph signatures for any signatures indicated by a "conformed" signature (/s/) within this efiled document.